

MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-THIRD
ANNUAL SESSION OF THE ❧ ❧ ❧

Geneva Baptist Association

Held with Shiloh Baptist Church,
Geneva County, Ala., Oct. 18 and 19, 1899.



REV. J. F. REGISTER, MODERATOR, Geneva, Ala.
W. L. CHANCEY, CLERK, Geneva, Ala.



*The next session will be held with Eden Baptist Church,
Geneva County, Alabama, commencing on Saturday
before the fourth Sunday in October, 1900.*

Introductory sermon to be preached by REV. S. A. SAVELL,
REV. G. J. CANANT, Alternate.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe in one only true and living God, and that there are three persons in the God head—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

2. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.

3. We believe in the doctrine of eternal and particular election.

4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.

5. We believe in man's impotency to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature by his own free will and ability.

6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Christ.

7. We believe that God's elect shall be called, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Ghost.

8. We believe that the Saints shall be preserved in grace and never finally fall away.

9. We believe that baptism and the Lord's supper are evidences of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the only subjects of these ordinances; and we believe the true mode of baptism is by immersion.

10. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a general judgement.

11. We believe the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting, and the joys of the righteous will be eternal.

12. We believe that no minister has a right to the administration of the ordinances—only such as are regularly elected and come under imposition of hands by the Presbytery.

NOTE—The churches of our acquaintance, both in Georgia and Alabama, in substance hold these principles.

NOTE—On next page, under head of "Ordained Ministers," the first name should read Joseph Hinson, instead of Joseph Henrison.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Introductory sermon.
2. Enrollment of messengers.
3. Election of officers.
4. Petitionary letters.
5. Receiving correspondence and visitors.
6. Appointing correspondents.
7. Appointing special committees—(1) on devotional service, (2) nominations, (3) documents, (4) deceased ministers and deacons.
8. Miscellaneous business.
9. Reports of standing committees.
10. Reports of special committees.
11. Appointment of standing committees.
12. Miscellaneous matters. Adjournment.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

Joseph Henrison, Geneva, Ala.	G. J. Canant, Watford, Ala.
J. F. Register, “ “	S. A. Savell, Hartford, “
W. L. Cahall, “ “	J. B. Deshazo, Hinote, “
W. H. Webb, “ “	A. B. Riddle, Barkers, Fla.
N. J. Peters, “ “	Miles Osborn, Potota “
J. H. Patton, Vaughanville, Ala.	
Licentials, B. J. Castellow, Vaughanville, Ala.	

COMMITTEES.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Dr. M. F. Fleming, - - - - -	Geneva, Ala.
B. J. Castellow, - - - - -	Vaughanville, Ala.
J. B. Albritton, - - - - -	Geneva, Ala.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Foreign missions—Rev. W. L. Cahall, A. W. Bean, M. H. Sellers.

Home missions—Rev. G. J. Canant, Daniel Swanner, M. T. Bracken.

State missions—Rev. S. A. Savell, H. J. Owens, George Gilmore.

Orphanage—Rev. N. J. Peters, D. J. Renfro, James Austin.

Sunday schools—E. J. Stanley, T. F. Sellars, W. L. Chancey.

Pastors' support—J. A. Thornton, R. Mills, Dan Johnson.

Temperance—Rev. B. J. Castellow, J. H. Patton, J. J. Peacock.

Education—J. H. Hooton, M. F. Fleming, W. H. Hinson.

MINUTES.

The twenty-third annual meeting of the Geneva Baptist association met with the Shiloh Baptist church, Geneva county, Alabama, October 18th and 19th, 1899.

The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. John F. Register, text, John, 20th chapter, 13th verse, "Because they have taken away my Lord, and I know not where they have laid him."

After refreshments the association was called to order by former moderator, J. F. Register; prayer by Bro. Castellow; letters from the churches were called for and read by Rev. W. L. Cahall and J. B. Albritton. Prayer by Bro. Castellow.

The following churches were represented by the messengers enrolled:

Adoniram—R. H. Martin, W. F. Walker, O. L. Rivenbark and G. H. Rivenbark.

Christian Home—J. M. Davis, J. T. Starlin.

Friendship—R. Mills, M. H. Sellars, D. P. Sellars.

Fellowship—James Watson, Burrell Galloway, C. W. Jacobs.

Geneva—John F. Register, M. F. Fleming, J. T. Martin, W. L. Cahall, J. B. Albritton.

Leonia—James Watson, Thomas McDonald.

New Teamon—J. B. Deshazo, J. B. McClean.

New Hope—G. W. Gelman, H. J. Owens, B. J. Castellow.

New Prospect—R. D. Abbott, J. Q. Barker.

Pleasant Grove—J. T. Osburn, E. A. Majors.

Pleasant Hill—J. A. Killinsworth, R. H. Whitfield.

Pleasant Ridge—A. S. Andrews, M. Gillis.

Center Ridge—E. J. Stanley.

Shiloh—J. J. Peacock, Jesse Dean, M. T. Bracken.

Pilgrims Rest—J. T. Woodham, G. W. Holloway.

Union—J. C. Anderson, J. J. A. Martin.

Eden—T. F. Sellars, J. J. Noblin.

Zion Hill—C. L. Aman, W. J. Pelham.

The association was organized by electing John F. Register, moderator, and W. L. Chancey, clerk and treasurer.

The association was declared ready for business; petitionary letters were called for and one was received from Hartford, which was read, and on motion was received, with its messengers: Brethren S. A. Savell, Robt. Winn and James H. Hooten.

Called for correspondence, and received from Newton association, Rev. James W. Bullard, R. Herrin and O. C. Doster; from Columbia, Rev. Courtney; Sardis, Rev. J. W. Brooks; Pea River, Joe Jones; Rev. A. J. Preston, representing the State Board of Missions; S. A. Savell, representing Texas Baptist Standard, and Rev. W. L. Cahall, representing Alabama Baptist, Howard College, Judson Institute and Orphans' Home.

Returned correspondence, to Pea River, Rev. J. F. Register; Newton and Columbia, Rev. G. J. Canant and J. T. Starlin; Sardis, J. B. Albritton and J. L. Barker.

The following committees were appointed:

Divine service—Delegation from Shiloh, E. A. Majors, R. H. Martin.

Education—E. J. Stanley, James H. Hooten, B. J. Castellow.

Nominations—M. H. Sellers, J. J. Noblin, J. J. A. Martin.

Deceased Ministers—R. Mills, Calvin Anderson, M. T. Brackin.

Finance—J. B. Albritton, W. J. Pelham, D. P. Sellars.

Documents—T. F. Sellars, John Osburn, H. J. Owens.

Reports of standing committees were called for. Report on missions was read by Rev. S. A. Savell and made a special order for 10 o'clock next day. Report on Sunday schools was read by J. B. Albritton and also laid over until the next day. The association then adjourned until 8:30 o'clock Thursday morning.

Rev. W. L. Cahall preached at 7.30 o'clock, text, Phil., 3d chapter, 12th verse.

THURSDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 19.

At 8:30 a. m., the association was called to order, after song and prayer by Rev. J. W. Bullard; proceeded to business by renewed call for petitionary letters. Reports on standing committees were again called for. Report on temperance was read and laid over. Report on orphanage was read by Rev. J. F. Register and discussed by Bros. Cahall and Preston. Report on missions was taken up and discussed by Rev. S. A. Savell and others. Report on temperance was taken up and discussed by Bros. Savell, Preston and others. At 11 o'clock a. m., Rev. A. J. Preston preached a very interesting sermon from the text, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." Collection for State missions; \$7.00, for indigent ministers, \$7.86. The association then adjourned until 2 o'clock p. m.

At 2 o'clock p. m. the association was again called to order; song and prayer by Bro. Herring. Report on Sunday schools was

discussed by Bros. S. A. Savell, Preston and others. On motion of Bro. Savell a Sunday school missionary and organizer was appointed, Bro. J. B. Albritton being appointed as such. Report on education was read by Bro. Castellow and discussed by Bros. Cahall, Preston and O. C. Doster, representing S. E. A. B. C. L. Bro. Russell P. Coleman was elected trustee from the Geneva Baptist association for the above named institute.

Pledges for associational missionary were taken as follows:

Geneva, \$50; Adoniram, \$3; Center Ridge, \$3; Friendship, \$5; Eden, \$5; Zion Hill, \$2.50; Union, \$2; Pleasant Ridge, \$2; Leonia, \$2; New Hope, \$5; J. T. Starlin, \$2.50; C. Anderson, \$1; J. J. Watson, \$1; total amount, \$83.

Reports of committees were adopted as follows:

NOMINATIONS.

Your committee on nominations report as follows: Bro. S. A. Savell to preach introductory at next association. G. J. Canant alternate to W. L. Cahall, delegate to State Baptist convention.

M. H. SELLARS, Chairman.

DOCUMENTS.

Your committee on documents report as follows; We find that Friendship, Eden, Prospect and New Hope have each asked your next meeting to be held with them.

T. F. SELLARS, Chairman.

DECEASED MINISTERS.

Your committee on deceased ministers report as follows: We find that Bro. J. L. C. White, one of our ministers, has been called from labor to refreshment. We ask that a special committee be appointed to prepare a suitable tribute to his memory.

Bro. G. J. Canant was appointed. R. MILLS, Chairman.

TEMPERANCE.

The corruption of alcoholic drink is so far-reaching in its evils that it is impossible to estimate. In order that public opinion may be molded into correct thinking and the evils stamped out, it is necessary to begin right. The remedy must be attained through the individual and not the nation. Religion is the only solution of the temperance problem. Get men's hearts right and the nation will be right. Temperance should begin in the home. Not until fathers quit frequenting barrooms, mothers offering wine to the young and fathers using it socially in the presence of their children can this momentous question be solved. Example is stronger than precept, and action speaks louder than words.

Through this, and this only, will the friends of temperance see this nation what they hope to make it.

B. J. CASTELLOW, Chairman.

REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

The committee on Sabbath schools submits the following:

We regret the little interest manifested in Sabbath schools by some of our churches, yet we feel truly grateful to know that some of our churches are interested in the work. We recommend that all of our churches and pastors make a faithful effort to establish and maintain a live and evergreen Sabbath school at each church within the bounds of our association. Our children should have more attention paid to them in Bible thoughts and education. We also recommend that a Sunday school convention be organized as soon as possible within the bounds of the Geneva association, for the purpose of promoting and stimulating the cause of Sabbath schools. Respectfully submitted, J. B. ALBRITTON, Chairman.

ORPHANAGE.

There are very many objects of benevolence that our church is endeavoring to care for, among which, in the opinion of our committee, there is none more worthy of our support than the orphans' home. We should support the home not only by our prayers but actual necessities of life should be furnished. To feed the hungry and clothe the naked is a part of our mission as christians. This our Savior teaches us in His description of the last judgement, "I was hungry and ye fed me." This is well pleasing, and failure to do this is not well pleasing. "I was hungry and ye fed me not." We cannot dispute the orphan's claim upon us, entirely dependent for all they eat and wear. We learn from the Alabama Baptist that some churches send boxes containing articles of household use, such is quite acceptable. And now winter is near at hand; many things will be needed that are not in summer. Your committee would suggest that pastors take collection for orphanage at once.

A. W. BEAN, Chairman.

REPORT OF STATE BOARD OF MISSIONS.

Your committee submits the following from statistics from the Baptist of Alabama:

We can report the State work in fine shape. While there has not been as much accomplished as should be, we are profoundly grateful to God for what has been done and for the future outlook, which is full of hope. We are in better financial condition than for years. This has been a year largely devoted to the payment of

debts; and this fact must not be forgotten when you estimate the year's work. Below we give the amounts raised by the State for all of its work:

Received for State missions....	\$8,526 53
Bible and colportage....	10 83
Ministerial education...	244 48
Greensboro house.....	3 15
Orphanage	250 20
Home mission.....	1,629 26
Foreign mission.....	2,902 72
Howard college.....	25 54
Aid to weak churches...	35 30
Aged and infirm ministers	73 25
Church building.....	11 65
Bible work.....	20 65
Institute board.....	86 96
Children's day.....	10 54
	<hr/>
	\$13,831 06

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

It seems from the statistics of the convention minute that there is some conflict in figures. The report on State gives the amount for foreign missions from Alabama at \$2,902.72, and the report on foreign mission gives the amount that Alabama contributed at \$5,950.74. Brethren is this the best Alabama can do? There is 119,454 Baptist in the State, our contribution amounted to about 15 cents per capita. We are rich in wood, water, in minerals and ores, in soil and in climate, in mercantile trade and farming interests, in churches and members, and in happy homes and joyous hopes. Surely our resources are exhaustless, our opportunities are abundant, and our responsibility is fearful. Let us be awake to a full sense of our duty and do the work of our master faithfully. The great work of missions is to preach the gospel. It may be necessary to give attention to some minor things, but the great work of the church is to proclaim the glad tidings of great joy to all the people. The gospel is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believes. The great field of missionary operation is the world, the whole world. Some people are too far-sighted in religious work; they are ready to ignore all practical duties at hand and rush to the islands of the sea. Others are too near-sighted; they can see nothing unless it comes under their noses. Beginning at Jerusalem and extending to the uttermost parts of

the earth is the gospel plan of witnessing for Christ. Out of this grows the great doctrine of foreign missions; the whole world is the field of operation. The true ground for missionary operation is the authoritative commission, the loving command of our Blessed Lord, the lost condition of men without the gospel, the gracious effects of the work upon Christians themselves; and other things may have their right, but we need to come down to the granite rock of duty and obedience to our Lord Jesus Christ. Ought we not to realize that the words of the Savior, "Why call ye me Lord, Lord, and do not the things I say," have strong application in His command to His people to preach the gospel to all the nations? Obedience to Christ is the rock on which this work rests. The command of our Lord is the true ground upon which all our mission work is based. The great motive in missions is love for Christ. Love for Christ comprehends those for whom Christ died, and a burning desire to do what Christ says: "If you love Me, keep My commandments." The great hindrance to mission work is the want of self-denial and of bold-hearted consecration on the part of those who profess to love the Lord. It is true that false religion and superstitions that are hoary with age stand in the way. The languages of heathen nations must be learned, and customs and habits studied. It is true that only very slow progress in evangelization can be hoped for in many places. Many other difficulties and hindrances might be enumerated, but the greatest of all obstacles is a want of complete surrender to Christ and of self-denying service for Christ by those who lay claim to the name Christian. Though earth and hell oppose, when the children of God place themselves on the altar of sacrifice and service, a nation will be born in a day.

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS.

Among the fields in which our home board has hitherto been prosecuting its much needed work may be mentioned some of our large cities, the great and growing west and southwest, including Indian Territory, Oklahoma, and on toward the Pacific slope, the mountain districts of most of the States, from our national capital to the Mississippi river and the islands of Cuba. It is gratifying to note that the blessing of God has been upon this work. From the report of our secretary, we find that the amount raised and expended on the field for home missions for last year was \$54,251, against \$45,671 the previous year. There was collected and expended in building houses of worship on the field \$56,385, against \$51,540 for the previous year, making a total of

money raised on the field \$110,636, against \$97,211 for previous year, an increase of \$13,425. Total cash received by the home board from all sources was \$86,887, against \$83,184 for previous year, an increase of \$3,703. The number of missionaries employed last year was 467, against 372 for previous year; and baptism were 4,739, against 4,709 for previous year; and total addition to the churches were 9,509, against 9,445 for previous year.

Summary of work for past conventional year:

Missionaries.....	467
Weeks of labor.....	11,407
Churches and stations.....	1,960
Sermons and addresses.....	49,306
Prayer meetings.....	10,359
Religious visits.....	59,841
Baptisms.....	4,739
Received by letter.....	4,770
Total additions.....	9,509
Churches constituted.....	103
Houses of worship built.....	45
Houses of worship improved.....	68
Amount expended on houses of worship.	\$59,629
Sunday schools organized.....	299
Teachers and pupils.....	2,710
Bibles and testaments...	4,668
Tracts distributed, pages	580,741

From the above report, we get some faint idea of the greatness of the work. Let us brethren, of the Geneva association, rally to help in the work of our Blessed Lord and Master.

Respectfully submitted, B. S. LANGSTON, Chairman.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Your committee on finance find the following:

For State mission	\$ 40 35
State missions, public collection.....	7 00
Home missions.....	18 95
Foreign missions.. ..	23 88
Orphans' home.....	58 56
Orphans' home, public collection... ..	9 12
Greensboro church.....	10 00
Ministerial education.....	20 00
Howard college.....	25 00
Associational purposes.....	5 65
Minutes.....	23 45

Total..... 241 97

Respectfully submitted, J. B. ALBRITTON, Chairman.

W. L. CHANCEY.

W. L. CHANCEY.

E. J. STANLEY.

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E. J. STANLEY.

Resolved, That the clerk be paid \$10.00 for his services and \$20.00 for minutes, distributed among the churches according to amount sent.

On motion, the association then adjourned to meet with the church at Eden on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in October, 1900.

JOHN F. REGISTER, Moderator.

W. L. CHANCEY, Clerk and Treasurer.

MEMORIAL.

There are some things in this life that when called upon to do we can do with joy and without sadness, and there are other things that we can do and want to take part in, but we do it with sadness. And this is a work imposed upon the writer by his brethren that he does with sadness. When I call to my mind, as I do just now, mine and his very close intimacy for years, I knew him to be true and faithful to his calling, first as a deacon and then as a preacher he was. And especially was he true to me, his pastor, all these years. I was his pastor when he was learning to preach, and was his pastor when he was ordained to the full work of the gospel ministry. The subject of this memorial, J. L. C. White, was born in Pike county, Ala., August 27, 1860, and joined the Baptist church at Enon church, Pike county, Ala., the year 1885, and in the year of 1895 he was ordained by the authority of Zion Hill Baptist church, Geneva county, Ala., by Bro. J. F. Register and the writer. Bro. White was a good man of honest convictions, true to his God, true to his pastor, true to his church, and true to wife and children. Bro. White did not seem to have the gifts of a good pastor, but his talent seemed to be community work. He had the nerve and courage to talk and exhort especially in the hedges and highways, and especially was he a good servant when it came to exhorting wicked young men. Bro. White had his failings, I have mine, and you have yours. Let's try to improve; let's try to redeem the times, seeing that the days are evil. So, my beloved brother, thou art gone, but not forgotton, your pastor misses you, the church at Adoniram misses you, but, above all, your loving wife and children miss you; but our loss is your eternal gain. Look for me, brother White, I will soon be with you again.

Done by order of association.

G. J. CANANT, his pastor.

FINANCIAL EXHIBIT OF GENEVA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, FOR YEAR 1899.

CHURCHES.	MISSIONS.				EDUCATION 'L			Minutes.	HOME EXPENSES.			Total.	Value of Property.	
	State.	Home.	Foreign	Church Build'gs not at home.	Associa-tional.	Minis-terial.	College Build'gs		Orphans' Home.	Pastor's Salary.	Repairs and New Build'gs			Poor, Fuel, S.S. Etc.
Adoniram		\$ 2 65						\$2 00	\$1 50				\$ 100 00	
Center Ridge...			\$ 1 30					2 65	50				500 00	
Friendship....					\$1 50				1 70					
Fellowship....									1 50					
Geneva	\$39 25	15 00	12 50	\$100 00		\$20 00	\$25 00	45 00	2 50	\$500 00	\$35 00	\$25 00	1000 00	
Hartford			5 00						1 00					
Lecnia					15			3 21	1 50				150 00	
New Hope....								1 85	1 00					
New Teamon..									1 00					
New Prospect.		25						2 50	75	50 00			200 00	
Pilgrim Rest..					50				2 00					
Pleasant Grove					1 00				1 50					
Pleasant Hill.									50					
Pleasant Ridge									2 50					
Shiloh.....			4 08		1 00				2 50					
Union		55	50						1 00					
ChristianHome					50				75				125 00	
Eden	1 10	50	50		1 00			85	1 00	39 50			300 00	
Zion Hill.....								50	50	31 00			100 00	
Coll. at Ass'ns	7 01							9 12						
	\$47 36	\$18 95	\$23 88	\$100 00	\$5 65	\$20 00	\$25 00	\$67 68	\$23 45	\$620 50	\$35 00	\$25 00	\$789 25	\$2475 00

STATISTICS OF GENEVA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, FOR YEAR 1899.

CHURCHES.	COUNTY.	PASTOR.	CLERK AND P. O. ADDRESS.	Membership last Report'd	INCREASE BY			D'CR'SE			Present Membership.	SUNDAY SCHOOL.			Preaching, Sabbaths.	
					Baptism	Letter.	Voucher	Restor'n	Letter.	Exclus'n		Death.	Officers & teach.	Pupils.		Sup'ts Name and P. O. Address.
Adoniram	Geneva, Ala.	S. A. Savell..	G. W. Canant, Hartford, Ala.	39	..	1	..	1	3	3	1	90	10	58	W. L. Chancey, Geneva, Ala....	2
Center Ridge..	" "	J. F. Register.	J. A. Thornton, Coffee Springs	22	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	25	...	...	.....	2
Christian Home	" "	S. Williford..	J. M. Davis, Afro, Ala.....	57	4	2	..	..	13	..	..	46	...	...	.....	2
Friendship....	" "	S. A. Savell..	A. M. Mills, Costilla, Ala....	85	5	...	..	..	20	1	1	68	7	45	B. A. Sellars, Costilla, Ala. .	4
Fellowship....	" "	J. B. Deshazo	H. J. Childs, Hartford, Ala..	80	1	16	..	..	7	2	..	92	...	...	.....	2
Geneva	" "	W. L. Cahall..	W. W. Barnett, Geneva, Ala.	166	..	5	..	..	24	..	3	144	9	74	Nat Pace, Geneva, Ala.....	1 & 3
Hartford	" "	S. A. Savell.	J. H. Hooten, Hartford, Ala.	17	13	10	..	..	4	..	1	35	...	...	.....	1
Leonia	Holmes, Fla.	J. H. Patton..	J. F. Watson, Dady, Fla....	16	1	...	..	2	1	1	..	40	4	30	Jack Gilmore .....	...
New Hope....	" "	J. F. Register	J. E. Dancey, Pitts, Fla.....	65	3	5	1	..	..	..	2	72	4	32	H. J. Owens, Holmes, Fla... .	2
New Teamon..	Geneva, Ala.	S. Williford..	J. B. McClain, Russ, Ala....	70	5	4	..	..	..	..	1	73	...	...	.....	...
New Prospect.	" "	"	B. R. Messer, Marl, Ala.....	...	..	3	..	5	..	..	..	52	...	...	.....	...
Pilgrim Rest..	Dale, Ala..	S. A. Savell..	S. M. Maund, Wicksburg, Ala	79	1	4	..	..	2	3	..	78	4	26	Dr. H. J. Swinson, Watford....	3
Pleasant Grove	Holmes, Fla.	J. H. Patton..	W. H. Grubbs, Art, Fla....	165	3	4	1	1	..	5	..	109	...	...	.....	4
Pleasant Hill.	Geneva, Ala.	G. J. Canant..	J. A. Killingsworth, Lupton.	83	2	6	..	2	7	3	..	83	...	...	.....	3
Pleasant Ridge	Holmes, Fla.	J. R. Anderson	J. M. Gillis, Union, Fla.....	26	..	...	..	1	5	3	1	39	...	...	.....	...
Shiloh.....	Geneva, Ala.	S. A. Savell.	M. M. Dean, Dundee, Ala...	113	9	11	..	1	5	3	1	125	7	56	B. S. Langston, Wicksburg, Ala.	1
Union .....	" "	.....	J. J. A. Martin, Watford, Ala	38	2	1	..	..	1	..	1	39	...	...	.....	...
Eden	" "	J. F. Register	C. J. Hinson, Geneva, Ala...	22	1	26	1	1	1	1	..	49	5	54	W. H. Hinson, Geneva, Ala....	2
Zion Hill.....	" "	J. H. Patton..	N. J. Pelham, Highnote, Ala.	30	..	1	..	..	2	1	..	28	...	...	.....	1
				1183	52	100	3	14	95	26	12	1289	50	375		

